

MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Tuesday, April 26, 2005 3:00 p.m. Room 307 House Office Building, Lansing

Representative Nitz, Chair, called the meeting to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Representatives Nitz, Ball, Newell, Casperson, Stahl, Proos, Hune, Mayes, Spade, Kathleen Law. (10/11)

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Representative Sheltrown. (1/11)

Representative Newell made a motion to adopt the minutes of the meeting of April 19, 2005, supported by Representative Casperson. No objections being offered, a unanimous ballot was cast to accept the minutes as presented.

The Chair laid HB 4558 before the Committee.

HB 4558 Meyer Agriculture; other; loan forgiveness of \$5,000,000.00 to sugar beet cooperatives; provide for.

Representative Meyer reviewed the provisions of the bill with the Committee and discussed an H-1 substitute.

Representative Mayes made a motion to adopt HB 4558 (H-1), supported by Representative Casperson.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Nitz, Newell, Casperson, Proos, Hune, Mayes, Spade, Kathleen Law. (8/11)

Nays: None. (0/11)

Pass: None. (0/11) (8/0/0)

A sufficient number of members voting in the affirmative, the motion prevailed.

Richard Leach and Ray VanDriessche spoke to the Committee in support of HB 4558.

Tonia Ritter, representing the Michigan Farm Bureau, submitted a card in support of HB 4558.

Scott Schrager, representing the Michigan Department of Treasury, spoke to the Committee regarding the H-1 substitute to HB 4558. Mr. Schrager stated that the Director of the Department of Treasury opposes the bill.

Representative Mayes made a motion to report HB 4558 (H-1) with recommendation, supported by Representative Hune.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Nitz, Ball, Newell, Casperson, Stahl, Proos, Hune, Mayes, Spade, Kathleen Law. (10/11)

Nays: None. (0/11)

Pass: None. (0/11) (10/0/0)

A sufficient number of members voting in the affirmative, the motion prevailed.

The Chair laid HB 4623 before the Committee.

HB 4623 Nitz Agriculture; associations and commissions; potato commission; allow to reapportion either the number of commission members or members districts.

Ben Kudwa, representing the Potato Growers of Michigan, reviewed the provisions of HB 4623 with the Committee.

Brad Deacon and Bob Craig, representing the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA), spoke in support of HB 4623.

Tonia Ritter, representing the Michigan Farm Bureau, submitted a card indicating support for HB 4623.

Representative Stahl made a motion to adopt HB 4623 (H-1), supported by Representative Spade.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Nitz, Ball, Newell, Casperson, Stahl, Proos, Hune, Mayes, Spade, Kathleen Law. (10/11)

Nays: None. (0/11)

Pass: None. (0/11) (10/0/0)

A sufficient number of members voting in the affirmative, the motion prevailed.

Representative Stahl made a motion to report HB 4623 (H-1) with recommendation, supported by Representative Hune.

FAVORABLE ROLL CALL:

Yeas: Representatives Nitz, Ball, Newell, Casperson, Stahl, Proos, Hune, Mayes, Spade, Kathleen Law. (10/11)

Nays: None. (0/11)

Pass: None. (0/11) (10/0/0)

A sufficient number of members voting in the affirmative, the motion prevailed.

Representative Mayes made a motion to excuse Representative Sheltroun, supported by Representative Stahl. No objections being offered, Representative Sheltroun was excused.

There being no additional business before the Committee, Chair Nitz declared the meeting adjourned, the time being 3:32 p.m.

Representative Neal Nitz, Chair

Catherine Petroskey, Committee Clerk
(517) 373-8538